

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 768

By Pody

A RESOLUTION to honor Dr. Lanas Smith upon his induction into the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, agriculture has been a cornerstone of Wilson County since the county's founding in 1799, and those citizens involved in farming have always been a vital part of the community; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly specially recognize those outstanding citizens who dedicate their lives to serving in agricultural industries and promoting the importance of agriculture in our society; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable individual is Dr. Lanas Smith, a Wilson County native who has been inducted into the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame for his innumerable contributions to agriculture in Tennessee and throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, born on December 23, 1958, Dr. Lanas Smith is the third of Ray and Dorothy Jean Smith's four sons; the boys were raised on the family farm on Cainsville Road between Lebanon and Norene, where Dr. Smith's mother still resides and his oldest brother, Quintin, and Quintin's family, still farm; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Smith is a proud "fifth-grade graduate" of the now-closed Shop Springs School; he attended schools in Lebanon and graduated from Lebanon High School in 1976. While in high school, he served as president of the Wilson County 4-H Club and was an officer in the Lebanon FFA Chapter; and

WHEREAS, in 1979, he graduated from Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) with a degree in animal science and a minor in agricultural education; during his time at MTSU, he won numerous individual and team awards as a member of the Livestock Judging Team and

served as president of the Block and Bridle Club; it was also during this time that he met his wife, Julie Murphy Smith, who was on the Horse Judging Team; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lanas Smith pursued graduate study at the University of Kentucky, where he received a teaching fellowship and coached the collegiate Livestock Judging Team; he received his master's degree in animal sciences in 1983 and his doctorate in ruminant nutrition in 1986; and

WHEREAS, he then accepted a position in St. Louis, Missouri, with Purina Mills as a cattle nutritionist and was transferred to Liberal, Kansas, in 1987 as a consulting feedlot nutritionist; in 1989, he left Purina and started his own feedlot consulting business, Midwest Feedlot Nutrition; and

WHEREAS, later that same year, Dr. Smith entered an agreement to do consulting for a small liquid premix company, Midwest PMS, Inc., and from the small group of cattle specialists, of which he was one, the company built a consulting nutritionist group that today services more than forty percent of cattle on feed in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, Lanas and Julie Smith moved the family to Colorado, where they now reside on their horse and cattle farm outside of Boulder; she runs a very successful horse boarding business and trains and shows her own dressage horses, while he operates his consulting business out of his home office, maintaining accounts in ten states. He has also consulted internationally with cattle firms in Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Australia, and South Africa; and

WHEREAS, Dr. and Mrs. Smith are exceedingly proud of their three adult children: Paige, Parker, and David; David Smith and his father share a love for cattle and have spent the last ten years building a multi-breed cattle operation; during this time, David has shown their cattle to countless national championships in seven different breeds, and he and Dr. Smith have traveled the country meeting many great cattle producers, several of whom are in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, highly regarded in his field, Dr. Smith has served on advisory boards for many large agri-business companies, including Elanco, Pfizer, Zoetis, Merck, Smithfield Foods,

ConAgra Foods, JBS Five Rivers, Sparks Commodities, and Harris Beef; he is a member of the National Animal Science Society and the Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society, as well as a founding member of both the American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists and the Plains Nutrition Council. He is also a lifetime member of the American Angus Association; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lanas Smith believes in the greatness of America's farmers and agricultural communities; in an effort to foster future generations of farmers and agricultural enthusiasts and experts, he and his wife support 4-H, FFA, collegiate, and other agricultural programs and organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame honors those dedicated citizens who have committed their lives to developing and maintaining the highest standards and principles in their chosen vocation, and it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly honor Dr. Lanas Smith for his valuable service to agriculture and the farming community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor Dr. Lanas Smith upon his induction into the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame, as we reflect fondly upon his many contributions to agriculture in the State of Tennessee and beyond.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.